

Attorney Docket No. 408-016A

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A medium for cultivating and producing mites [[free from human or animal substances and comprising]] that comprises effective amounts of a plurality of amino acids in [[particulate]] lyophilized form with a particle size of less than 250  $\mu$ m, [[or a plurality of amino acids in lyophilized form,]] wherein the medium is in particulate form and free from human or animal substances.
2. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1, which comprises amino acids obtained by grinding amino acids.
3. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 2, which comprises lyophilized amino acids and/or amino acids obtained commercially.
4. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1, which comprises lyophilized amino acids and amino acids obtained commercially.
5. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1, wherein it contains salts.
6. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1, wherein the mixture of amino acids contains at least 50% of amino acids which naturally make up proteins or the equivalents thereof.
7. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1, wherein the mixture of amino acids reproduces the spectrum of amino acids that make up keratin or the stratum corneum.
8. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1, wherein the mixture of amino acids reproduces the spectrum of amino acids present in shrimp eggs or in soya.
9. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 7, wherein the respective proportions of the amino acids of said mixture are similar to the quantitative proportions of the amino acids and

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salts in keratin or the stratum corneum.

10. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 8, wherein the respective proportions of the amino acids are similar to the quantitative proportions of the amino acids and salts found in a substance selected from the group consisting of shrimp eggs and soya.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1, which also contains wheat germ and/or yeast, especially baker's yeast, and/or cyanocobalamine and/or d-biotin.

13. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 1, which contains soya.

14. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 1, which contains at least 50% of the following amino acids:

- L-alanine
- L-arginine
- L-aspartic acid
- [[L-cysteine/cystine]] L-cysteine or cystine
- L-glutamic acid
- glycine
- L-histidine
- L-isoleucine
- L-leucine
- L-Lysine
- L-methionine
- L-phenylalanine
- L-proline
- L-serine
- L-threonine
- L-tryptophane
- L-tyrosine and
- L-valine.

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15. (Currently amended) The medium of claim 14, which contains the amino acids in the following proportions, adding up to a total of 93.711 g:

- L-alanine	3.8 g
- L-arginine	4.2 g
- L-aspartic acid	5.2 g
- L-cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate expressed as [[L-cysteine/L-cystine]] <u>L-cysteine or cystine</u>	1.7 g
- L-glutamic acid	11.5 g
glycine	2.7 g
- L-histidine	3.1 g
- L-isoleucine	5.0 g
- L-leucine	6.7 g
- L-lysine hydrochloride, expressed as L-lysine	5.0 g
- L-methionine	2.4 g
- L-phenylalanine	7.0 g
- L-proline	10.3 g
- L-serine	9.6 g
- L-threonine	3.8 g
- L-tryptophane	1.3 g
- L-tyrosine	0.6 g
- L-valine	5.5 g
- calcium chloride dehydrate	0.44g
- magnesium sulphate heptahydrate	0.493g
- sodium hydroxide	0.6 g
- potassium hydroxide	0.70g and
- potassium chloride	0.078g.

Claims 16-19 (Cancelled)

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20. (Previously Presented) A medium of claim 1, wherein said mites belong to at least one of the following species: *Dermatophagoids pteronyssinus*, *Dermatophagoides farinae*, *Blomia kulagini* or *tropicalis*, *Pyroglyphus africanus*, and *Euroglyphus maynei*.